

APPROVED FOR 87

THIS IS AN INCORMATION REPORT, BUT THIS

REPORT NO. CS -311/(LLES-72)
DATE DISTR 7 SEPTEMEN 1272

COUNTRY SOUTH VIETNAM

IOG

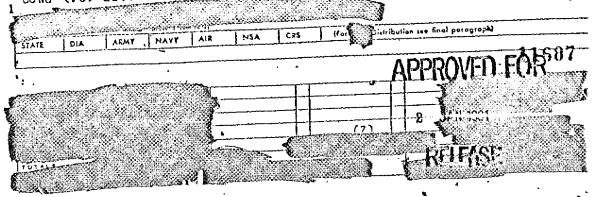
EARLY 1968

SUBJECT

SIGHTING OF FOUR U.S. PRISONERS OF WAR IN PRUOC NINH DISTRICT, TAY NINH PROVINCE, SOUTH VIETNAX

ACQ FINAM, SAIRON C22 JULY 19723
SOURCE

1. FOUR U.S. PRISONERS OF WAR (POW'S) NERE SIGHTED IN EARST FEBRUARY 1968 ABOUT FOUR KILOMETERS NORTH OF PHUOC TAN VILLAGE. PHUOC NINH DISTRICT, TAY NINH PROVINCE, SOUTH VIETNAM (SVS). ONE OF THE POW'S WAS A MAJOR, BUT THE RANKS OF THE OTHER THREE WERE NOT KNOWN. THEY WERE BEING GUARDED BY A SIX-MEMBER VIET CONG (VC) ESCORT TEAM. AS A SECURITY MEASURE, THE HANDS OF



ALL FOUR PRISONERS WERE TIED WITH PARACHUTE STRING, AND THEY WERE WATCHED VERY CLOSELY DURING THE REST BREAK.

- 2. ACCORDING TO THE LEADER OF THE VC ESCORT TEAM, THE MAJOR HAD BEEN CAPTURED ON A ROAD NEAR VC GO DAU HA DISTRICT CAPITAL, TAY NINH PROVINCE, IN EARLY 1968, WHEN HIS ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIER (APC) WAS HIT BY A VC ROCKET! HE MANAGED TO JUMP CLEAR OF THE BURBING APC BUT WAS CAPTURED IMMEDIATELY.

  A CAPTAIN IN THE SAME APC, ALTHOUGH WOUNDED, ALSO MANAGED TO GET OUT OF THE APC, BUT WAS SHOT WHEN HE RESISTED CAPTURE.
- 3. AT THE TIME OF SIGHTING, THE MAJOR WAS SPEAKING
  CAMBODIAN TO A NUMBER OF CURIOUS VILLAGERS. HE ASKED THE
  VILLAGERS FOR DRINKING WATER AND TOLD THEM THAT HE HAD LEARNED
  CAMBODIAN DURING A PREVIOUS TOUR IN CAMBODIA. HE APPEARED TO
  BE IN GOOD CONDITION. HE WAS ABOUT 43 YEARS OLD, ABOUT 1.65
  METERS TALL, FAIR COMPLEXIONED, AND HAD A STRONG BUILD, AN
  OVAL FACE, A RECEDING HAIRLINE AND A CREW HAIRCUT. HE WORE
  REGULAR ARMY PANTS, A BLACK PAJAMA COAT AND A PAIR OF RUBBER
  SANDALS.

  JOINT PRISONER RECOVERY CENTER /JPRC/ ALBUM OF PHOTOGRAPHS OF
  CAPTURED AND MISSING PERSONNEL IN SOUTHEAST ASIA BUT WAS
  UNABLE TO IDENTIFY THE PRISONERS. THE JPRC COMMENTED AS
  FOLLOWS: "JPRC RECORDS INDICATE THAT IT IS POSSIBLE THAT

PRISONER WHILE ON AN IN-FORCE RECONNAISSANCE IN THE AREA

PRISONER WHILE ON AN IN-FORCE RECONNAISSANCE IN THE AREA

REPORTED AND WITHIN THE TIME FRAME MENTIONED. MAJOR SCHRUMP

WAS FLUENT IN CAMBODIAN. THE CLOSENESS OF THE PHYSICAL CHARAC
TERISTICS OF THE POW MAJOR DECRIBED BY SOURCE TO THOSE OF MAJOR

SCHRUMP AND THE FACT THAT ANOTHER CAUCASIAN WAS LEFT WOUNDED IN

ACTION (WIA) AND NOT KILLED IN ACTION (XIA) ON THE BATTLEFIELD,

FURTHER INDICATE THE POSSIBILITY THAT SOURCE SIGHTED MAJOR SCHRUMP."

4. THE OTHER THREE POW'S SIGHTED WITH THE MAJOR HAD BEEN CARTURED IN THE TAN SON NHUT AREA IN SAIGON DURING THE FIRST

ALL FOUR PRISONERS WERE TIED WITH PARACHUTE STRING, AND THEY WERE WATCHED VERY CLOSELY DURING THE REST BREAK.

- 2. ACCORDING TO THE LEADER OF THE VC ESCORT TEAM, THE MAJOR HAD BEEN CAPTURED ON A ROAD NEAR VC GO DAU HA DISTRICT CAPITAL, TAY NINH PROVINCE, IN EARLY 1968, WHEN HIS ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIER (APC) WAS HIT BY A VC ROCKET. HE MANAGED TO JUMP CLEAR OF THE BURNING APC BUT WAS CAPTURED IMMEDIATELY. A CAPTAIN IN THE SAME APC, ALTHOUGH WOUNDED, ALSO MANAGED TO GET OUT OF THE APC, BUT WAS SHOT WHEN HE RESISTED CAPTURE.
- 3. AT THE TIME OF SIGHTING, THE MAJOR WAS SPEAKING
  CAMBODIAN TO A NUMBER OF CURIOUS VILLAGERS. HE ASKED THE
  VILLAGERS FOR DRINKING WATER AND TOLD THEM THAT HE HAD LEARNED
  CAMBODIAN DURING A PREVIOUS TOUR IN CAMBODIA. HE APPEARED TO
  BE IN GOOD CONDITION. HE WAS ABOUT 43 YEARS OLD, ABOUT 1.65
  METERS TALL, FAIR COMPLEXIONED, AND HAD A STRONG BUILD, AN
  OVAL FACE, A RECEDING HAIRLINE AND A CREW HAIRCUT. HE WORE
  REGULAR ARMY PANTS, A BLACK PAJAMA COAT AND A PAIR OF RUBBER
  SANDALS. VAS SHOWN THE
  JOINT PRISONER RECOVERY CENTER /JPRC/ ALBUM OF PHOTOGRAPHS OF
  CAPTURED AND MISSING PERSONNEL IN SOUTHEAST ASIA BUT WAS
  UNABLE TO IDENTIFY THE PRISONERS. THE JPRC COMMENTED AS
  FOLLOWS: "JPRC RECORDS INDICATE THAT IT IS POSSIBLE THAT

PRISONER WHILE ON AN IN-FORCE RECONNAISSANCE IN THE AREA
REPORTED AND WITHIN THE TIME FRAME MENTIONED. MAJOR SCHRUMP
WAS FLUENT IN CAMBODIAN. THE CLOSENESS OF THE PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POW MAJOR DECRIBED BY SOURCE TO THOSE OF MAJOR
SCHRUMP AND THE FACT THAT ANOTHER CAUCASIAN WAS LEFT WOUNDED IN
ACTION (WIA) AND NOT KILLED IN ACTION (KIA) ON THE BATTLEFIELD,
FURTHER INDICATE THE POSSIBILITY THAT SOURCE SIGHTED MAJOR SCHRUMP.")

A. THE OTHER THREE POW'S SIGHTED WITH THE MAJOR HAD BEEN CAPTURED IN THE TAN SON NHUT AREA IN SAIGON DURING THE FIRST PHASE OF THE ISSS TET OFFENSIVE. NGHIEP WAS ABLE TO DESCRIBE

CS-712 1-77

YEARS CLD, ABOUT 1.75 METERS TALL, WHO HAD CURLY HAIR AND A SLIT BUILD. THE OTHER TWO PRISONERS WERE ABOUT THE SAME AGE - 38 CT 39 YEARS. ALL THREE PRISONERS WERE DRESSED IN BLACK PAJAMES AND WORRE RUBBER SANDALS. THEY SEEMED TO BE IN GOOD PHYSICAL CONDITION. COMMENT: THE JPRC COMMENTED THAT THE PERSON DESCRIBED COULD BE CAPTAIN WILLIAM H. H A R D Y, WHO HAD WORKED FOR THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (USAID) AND WHO HAD DISAPPEARED IN THE TIME FRAME REPORTED. THE JPRC FOUND THAT HARDY'S DESCRIPTION CLOSELY.

RESEMBLES THAT GIVEN BY THE OTHER TWO POW'S CANNOT BE IDENTIFIED BECAUSE THEY ARE NOT FULLY DESCRIBED AND BECAUSE SEVERAL CAUCASIANS WERE ABDUCTED DURING THE PERIOD INDICATED AND WERE MOVED TOWARDS THE AREA REPORTED IN PARAGRAPH ONE.).

YEARS OLD, ABOUT 1.75 METERS TALL, WHO HAD COAL, MAD SOLD.

BUILD. THE OTHER TWO PRISONERS VERE ABOUT THE SAME AGE - 36 CT

39 YEARS. ALL THREE PRISONERS VERE DRESSED IN BLACK PAJANAS

AND WORE RUBBER SANDALS. THEY SEEMED TO BE IN GOOD PHYSICAL

CONDITION. COMMENT: THE JPRC COMMENTED THAT THE

PERSON DESCRIBED COULD BE CAPTAIN WILLIAM H. H A R D Y, VHO

HAD WORKED FOR THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL

DEVELOPMENT (USAID) AND WHO HAD DISAPPEARED IN THE TIME FRAXE

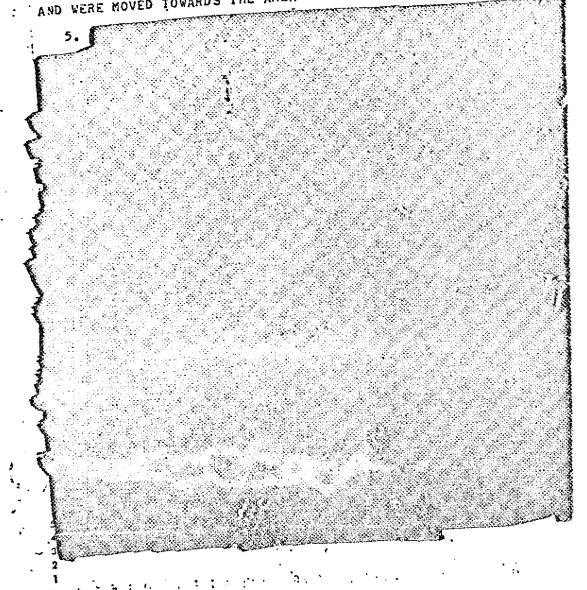
REPORTED. THE JPRC FOUND THAT HARDY'S DESCRIPTION CLOSELY.

RESEMBLES THAT GIVEN BY THE OTHER TWO POW'S CANNOT

BE IDENTIFIED BECAUSE THEY ARE NOT FULLY DESCRIBED AND BECAUSE

SEVERAL CAUCASIANS WERE ABDUCTED DURING THE PERIOD INDICATED

AND WERE MOVED TOWARDS THE AREA REPORTED IN PARAGRAPH ONE.)



IA P Gram PACYIOUS

Chickling SHEET

 $\geq$ 

PAGE 4 OF 4 PAGES cs-311/04435-72

6. DISSEM: EMBASSY, USMACY, USAID, USARY, NAVFORY,
525TH NI GP, 7602ND AIG, OST AT SAIGON: SENT TO CINCPAC, PACFLI,

6. DISSEM: EMBASSY, USMACV, USAID, USARV, NAVFORV,
525TH MI GP, 7602ND AIG, OSI AT SAIGON: SENT 10 CINCPAC, PACELT,
PACAF, ARPAC, JENTIAN: